

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, CPAS YO (PASTUOVIC, DJURDJA)

SUBJECT: USIS DISPLAY WINDOWS DEFACED BY WHITE PAINT

SUMMARY: FIVE USIS DISPLAY WINDOWS DEFACED DURING NIGHT SEPTEMBER 26-27. CROATIAN AUTHORITIES ADVISE THAT LONE FEMALE, YUGOSLAV CITIZEN DJURDJA PASTUOVIC, APPREHENDED IN ACT OF ALSO PAINTING NEARBY SIDEWALK AT 0030 SEPTEMBER 27. DEFACEMENT REPORTEDLY REPRESENTED HER PERSONAL PROTEST AGAINST ALLEGED INJURIES SUFFERED THROUGH ACTIONS/DECISIONS CHICAGO MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL "INGHAM STERNEBERG." PRELIMINARY ZAGREB POLICE INVESTIGATION INDICATES THAT PASTUOVIC RESIDED "SEVERAL YEARS" CHICAGO. LOCAL AUTHORITIES REQUEST ANY INFORMATION CHICAGO MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES CAN PROVIDE IN ORDER ASSIST POSSIBLE PSYCHIATRIC EVALUATION. END SUMMARY

1. UPON ARRIVING AT 0730 SEPTEMBER 27, 1974, TO OPEN CONSULAR PREMISES, DUTY OFFICER FOUND ZAGREB MUNICIPAL FIREMAN APPLYING TURPENTINE TO WHITE PAINT ON USIS GROUND FLOOR DISPLAY WINDOWS. THOUGH MOST WORDS HAD ALREADY BEEN RENDERED ILLEGIBLE BY FIREMEN'S EFFORTS, EVIDENCE SHOWED CLEARLY THAT SLOGANS HAD BEEN WRITTEN IN HEAVY, OIL-BASED PAINT ON FIVE WINDOWS; ONE WORD "INGHAM" PAINTED ON NEARBY SIDEWALK STILL LEGIBLE.

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2. FOLLOWING UP INITIAL ORAL REQUEST, REPORTING INCIDENT AND REQUESTING ALL APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE, CONSUL VON DEN STEINEN CALLED ON DEPUTY CHIEF CROATIAN PROTOCOL MILOSEVIC, WHO PROVIDED FOLLOWING RUNDOWN: AT 0030 SEPTEMBER 27, 1974, PASSING POLICE PATROL APPREHENDED FEMALE YUGOSLAV CITIZEN, DJURDJA PASTUOVIC, IN ACT OF PAINTING SIDEWALK FRONTING CONGEN PREMISES ON ZRINJEVAC. SHE HAD JUST COMPLETED WRITING WORD "INGHAM" IN HEAVY, WHITE, OIL-BASED PAINT. SAME PAINT AND HANDWRITING EVIDENT ON NEARBY USIS DISPLAY WINDOWS WHICH REPORTEDLY DEFACED BY FOLLOWING SLOGANS: "STOP TERROR CHICAGO CITY HALL;" "LYNCH FOR INGHAM STERNEBERG KLEPTOMANKA CHICAGA" (SIC); "CHICAGO CITY HALL KILLER CHILDREN;" "STOP MOB LAW."

2. EXPRESSING HIS GOVERNMENT'S REGRET BECAUSE OF THE INCIDENT, MILOSEVIC NEVSTMULESS EMPHASIZED THAT TWO PRINCIPAL CONCLUSIONS SHOULD BE DRAWN: (A) POLICE ACTED VERY ALERTLY; AND (B) PASTUOVIC ACTED FROM PERSONAL RATHER THAN POLITICAL MOTIVES. HE ADDED THAT PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION SHOWED SHE HAD RESIDED "SEVERAL YEARS" IN CHICAGO AND THAT SHE BELIEVED THAT A CERTAIN "INGHAM STERNEBERT" (SIC), AN OFFICIAL OF CHICAGO MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT HAD PREVENTED HER FROM "REALIZING HER RIGHTS" AND THAT THIS HAD REQUIRED HER "TO SPEND A LOT OF MONEY." MILOSEVIC ADDED THAT PASTUOVIC WOULD PROBABLY BE PLACED UNDERHPSYCHIATRIC OBSERVATION AND URGED THAT CHICAGO AUTHORITIES PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO ASSIST PROPER HANDLING OF THE CASE. PASTUOVIC BORN APRIL 11, 1940, IN ZAGREB, YUGOSLAVIA. WHEN ASKED, MILOSEVIC RESPONDED THAT HE HAD NO BASIS FOR ASSUMING PASTUOVIC MIGHT ALSO HOLD AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP.

3. VON DEN STEINEN ASKED MILOSEVIC TO CONVEY POST'S APPRECIATION TO POLICE FOR THEIR PROMPT RESPONSE WHILE STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF PREVENTING SUCH INCIDENTS FROM EVER TAKING PLACE.

4. DEPARTMENT REQUESTED MAKE EXPEDITIOUS CONTACT WITH CHICAGO MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES AND PERHAPS INS DISTRICT OFFICE THERE SO THAT WE CAN APPROPRIATELY RESPOND TO MILOSEVIC'S REQUEST FOR INFORMATION WHICH HE REITERATED SEVERAL TIMES DURING CONVERSATION. ALSO RECOMMEND PASSPORT OFFICE CHECK NAME AGAINST CITIZENSHIP FILES. CHECK OF POST AND EMBASSY BELGRADE FILES
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NEGATIVE.
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